



Kyrene board opposes Pecos freeway alignment

by **Colleen Sparks** - Jun. 25, 2008 10:53 AM
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The Kyrene school board has officially opposed the proposed South Mountain Freeway route along Pecos Road, saying it would negatively affect students at nearby campuses.

The school board on June 10 unanimously passed a resolution encouraging all parties to find another route for the freeway. Board member Mitzi Epstein was absent.

"Four Kyrene elementary and one middle school are directly affected by the proposed Loop 202 freeway alignments to Pecos Road," the resolution stated. "The exhaust fumes from the traffic on the proposed freeway would have detrimental effects on the health of Kyrene students. The increased noise would be detrimental to learning. The probable increase in traffic along Liberty Lane would pose a safety hazard to three schools."

The freeway would run along the Pecos Road alignment in Ahwatukee Foothills and cut through South Mountain Park.

"It just gives our staff some direction," Kyrene board member Rae Waters said of the resolution. "We go on record as saying it's not good for our schools."

The South Mountain Citizens Advisory Team, which has a Kyrene School District representative, will eventually recommend whether the freeway be built.

